Name of State	Name of City	Population (in lakh)
Pondicherry	Pondicherry	5.05
Punjab	Amristsar	10.03
	Ludhiana	13.98
Rajasthan	Ajmer-Pushkar	5.04
	Jaipur	23.27
Sikkim	Gangtok	0.29
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	65.60
	Coimbatore	14.61
	Madurai	12.03
Tripura	Agartala	1.90
Uttar Pradesh	Agra	13.31
	Allahabad	10.42
	Kanpur	27.15
	Lucknow	22.46
	Mathura	3.23
	Meerut	11.61
	Varanasi	12.04
Uttaranchal	Dehradun	5.30
	Hardwar	2.21
	Nainital	2.20
West Bengal	Asansol	10.67
	Kolkata	132.06

Performance of missions abroad

*487. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Government evolved any mechanism for the annual appraisal of the diplomatic, economic, academic and consular performance of the Missions abroad;

(b) if so, the details of the tangible parameters alongwith the rating of the Mission; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) The performance of Indian Missions abroad is appraised by the Ministry on a continuous basis in the context of our overall objective to strengthen India's relations with various countries and the welfare of Indians abroad. Such appraisal is done through various reports sent by the Missions such as monthly, quarterly, annual assessment reports, special despatches from time to time, regular reports on political, economic and consular and other matters, assessment during visits from India by various dignitaries, delegations and senior officers, meetings of Heads of Missions, reports of audits of the Missions carried out by the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General, and inspections carried out by the Directorate General of Inspection set up in the Ministry of External Affairs. The main purpose of such appraisal is to assist the Missions to make optimal use of the available resources to achieve India's overall national interests. There is no rating of Missions.

(c) Does not arise.

Popularity of doordarshan *vis-a-vis* private channels

*488. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the Doordarshan *vis-a-vis* other private channels in terms of reach, revenue and popularity;

(b) whether Government have undertaken any study to ascertain the above facts;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that as per viewership survey of various TV channels in TV households conducted by Indian Readership Survey, 2006 (Round I), Doordarshan is more popular than private channels as could be seen below:—